## FORECLOSURE NOTICE TO OCCUPANTS Requirements of House Bill 776 / Senate Bill 842 of 2009 Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session

## May 15, 2009

Please include the following phone number and website address for the Department of Housing and Community Development in the notices to <u>occupants</u> required by House Bill 776 / Senate Bill 842 (new §7-105.9 of the Real Property Article, Annotated Code of Maryland).

**Phone Number:** 877-775-0357 **Website:** www.mdhope.org

This Phone number is a NEW number that has been set-up to handle calls from people who receive the Notice to Occupant required by HB 776/SB 842 of 2009. The number will be active on May 19, 2009, the day the new law is expected to take effect.

Please note that the existing notices that are required by law (§7-105.1 of the Real Property Article, Annotated Code of Maryland) to be sent to the <u>property</u> owner should continue to direct households to the existing foreclosure hotline which is 877-462-7555.

## **Background:**

House Bill 776 / Senate Bill 842 of 2009 require a series of notices to be provided to the occupant of a residential property in various stages of foreclosure. This is a requirement of the person authorized to make a sale in an action to foreclose a mortgage or deed of trust on a residential property as well as the person who purchases residential property in a foreclosure sale.

These new required notices reference a phone number and website administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development to serve as a potential resource to assist occupants. Individuals responsible for the notice to occupants should include 877-775-0357 and <a href="www.mdhope.org">www.mdhope.org</a> in the notices as required by law. For the specific language to incorporate in the notice, please consult HB 776 and SB 842 at <a href="http://mlis.state.md.us/">http://mlis.state.md.us/</a>. The notice that is required by §7-105.9 of the Real Property Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, should continue to reference 877-462-7555.